

§ 6708. Biomass energy demonstration projects

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, may carry out projects that demonstrate the potential of short-rotation silvicultural methods to produce wood for electricity production and industrial energy needs. In carrying out such projects, the Secretary shall cooperate with private industries, Federal and State agencies, and other organizations.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2410, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4061.)

§ 6709. Interagency cooperation to maximize biomass growth

The Secretary may enter into an agreement with the Secretary of Defense to—

- (1) conduct a study of reforestation and improved management of Department of Defense military installations and lands; and
- (2) develop a program to manage such forests and lands so as to maximize their potential for biomass growth and sequestering carbon dioxide.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2411, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4062.)

§ 6710. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1991 through 1997, to carry out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIV, § 2412, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4062; Pub. L. 104-127, title VIII, § 843, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1170.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-127 substituted “1997” for “1996”.

§ 6711. Carbon cycle research**(a) In general**

To the extent funds are made available for this purpose, the Secretary shall provide a grant to the Consortium for Agricultural Soils Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases, acting through Kansas State University, to develop, analyze, and implement, through the land grant universities described in subsection (b) of this section, carbon cycle research at the national, regional, and local levels.

(b) Land grant universities

The land grant universities referred to in subsection (a) of this section are the following:

- (1) Colorado State University.
- (2) Iowa State University.
- (3) Kansas State University.
- (4) Michigan State University.
- (5) Montana State University.
- (6) Purdue University.
- (7) Ohio State University.
- (8) Texas A&M University.
- (9) University of Nebraska.

(c) Use

Land grant universities described in subsection (b) of this section shall use funds made available under this section—

- (1) to conduct research to improve the scientific basis of using land management prac-

tices to increase soil carbon sequestration, including research on the use of new technologies to increase carbon cycle effectiveness, such as biotechnology and nanotechnology;

(2) to enter into partnerships to identify, develop, and evaluate agricultural best practices, including partnerships between—

- (A) Federal, State, or private entities; and
- (B) the Department of Agriculture;

(3) to develop necessary computer models to predict and assess the carbon cycle;

(4) to estimate and develop mechanisms to measure carbon levels made available as a result of—

- (A) voluntary Federal conservation programs;
- (B) private and Federal forests; and
- (C) other land uses;

(5) to develop outreach programs, in coordination with Extension Services, to share information on carbon cycle and agricultural best practices that is useful to agricultural producers; and

(6) to collaborate with the Great Plains Regional Earth Science Application Center to develop a space-based carbon cycle remote sensing technology program to—

- (A) provide, on a near-continual basis, a real-time and comprehensive review of vegetation conditions;
- (B) assess and model agricultural carbon sequestration; and
- (C) develop commercial products.

(d) Cooperative research**(1) In general**

Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary, in cooperation with departments and agencies participating in the U.S. Global Change Research Program (which may use any of their statutory authorities) and with eligible entities, may carry out research to promote understanding of—

- (A) the flux of carbon in soils and plants (including trees); and
- (B) the exchange of other greenhouse gases from agriculture.

(2) Eligible entities

Research under this subsection may be carried out through the competitive awarding of grants and cooperative agreements to colleges and universities (as defined in section 3103 of this title).

(3) Cooperative research purposes

Research conducted under this subsection shall encourage collaboration among scientists with expertise in the areas of soil science, agronomy, agricultural economics, forestry, and other agricultural sciences to focus on—

- (A) developing data addressing carbon losses and gains in soils and plants (including trees) and the exchange of methane and nitrous oxide from agriculture;
- (B) understanding how agricultural and forestry practices affect the sequestration of carbon in soils and plants (including trees) and the exchange of other greenhouse gases,